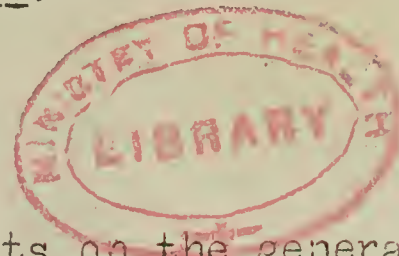




REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEARS 1940 - 42.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wilmslow Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Evans and Gentlemen,



I present herewith reports on the general health of the district during the years 1940, 1941 and 1942. These are purely interim reports and the statistics and records have been preserved as indicated in the appropriate circulars from the Ministry of Health. For the year 1943 it is proposed to give the various vital statistic rates for the years 1939-43 inclusive, which, covering a period of five years, show more exactly the health of the district.

A statement is here given under each of the three years as to the health services of the district. The Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Lancaster, has prepared a summary report for the three years, which is presented herewith.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Lancaster and his staff for the way in which they have carried out their work - especially when there was the pressure of Civil Defence work in 1940 and 1941. I also wish to express my thanks to the various Chairmen of the Public Health Committee and to the Clerk to the Council for their help and support.

During these three years there have been no outstanding outbreaks of infectious disease, nor has there been any evidence of deterioration of the health of the population owing to war or other conditions. Somewhat fuller details are now given for each year.

1940.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

93 cases were notified as follows:-

Diphtheria	6	(all over 10 years of age and 3 were over 15 years of age)
Scarlet Fever	12	
Enteric Fever	1	
Pneumonia	2	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	
Measles	53	
Whooping Cough	6	
Tuberculosis	9	
	<u>93</u>	

This was the first complete year in which Measles and Whooping Cough were notifiable. There was an outbreak of both Measles and Whooping Cough towards the end of the year. This was expected and it was not confined to one part of the district.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The scheme commenced in 1939 was continued in 1940. Immunisation was carried out at the Welfare Centre and also at special clinics in connection with the schools both private and council. The refusal rate among the unimmunised was less than 7%. The numbers dealt with under the scheme during the year were -

Aged under 5 years	- 223
Aged 5 - 15 years	- 715
Total	<u>938</u>

HEALTH SERVICES

There was no alteration during the year, but with the onset of heavy raiding the welfare centre was placed on a partial service basis till a suitable air raid shelter had been provided. Munsall Hospital again became available for all cases of infectious disease.

The onset of raiding resulted in an increase of the Civil Defence duties and some diminution in the inspections carried out.

1941.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

437 cases were notified during the year as follows:-

Diphtheria	2
Scarlet Fever	10
Enteric Fever	4
Pneumonia	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2
Measles	270
Whooping Cough	132
Food Poisoning	2
Tuberculosis	
(Primary)	8
	<u>437</u>

The measles epidemic was a continuation of that in 1940. The character of both this epidemic and that of whooping cough was mild and there were no deaths.

The cases of food poisoning were in one family and were due to faulty home storage.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

Immunised during the year:	Under 5 years	- 138
	5 - 15 years	- 66
	Total	<u>204</u>

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE:

This was reopened on a complete basis and the members attending steadily increased.

TYPHOID INOCULATION:

Inoculation against the enteric group of fevers was offered to Civil Defence and Civil Nursing Reserve personnel and 25 persons were thus dealt with.

1942.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

159 cases were notified as follows:

Diphtheria	2
Scarlet Fever	44
Pneumonia	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	3
Measles	95
Whooping Cough	5
Tuberculosis	
(Primary)	7
	<u>159</u>

The only point of note is the increase in cases of Scarlet Fever, the disease was mild and there was undoubtedly a large number of cases of streptococcal sore throat without rash. At no time did the number of cases reach epidemic proportions.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

This was continued during the year.

Cases dealt with during the year	under 5 years	- 97
	5 - 15 years	- 50
	Total	<u>147</u>

MILK SUPPLY:

During the year the work on dairies and dairy farms was increased and the necessity for it was shown by the complaints received. Results showed a considerable improvement, this matter will be dealt with more fully in the 1943 report.

I am,


Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Evans and Gentlemen

Your obedient servant,

DAVID G. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Wilmslow.
20th April, 1944.



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Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Green Hall,
WILMSLOW.

21st April 1944.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Evans and Gentlemen,

Annual Reports for 1940, 1941 and 1942.

I beg to submit a brief summary of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the years 1940, 1941 and 1942.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

The total number of inspections made and the notices served with respect to each section of the work is set out in the following tables:-

Nature of Inspections.	1940 No. of Insp.	1941 No. of Insp.	1942 No. of Insp.
<u>Housing</u>			
Houses inspected under P.H. A's	152	208	320
Reinspections under P. H. A's	213	325	460
Houses inspected under Housing A's	16	38	52
Reinspections under Housing Acts	35	56	64
<u>General</u>			
Refuse Collection and Disposal	218	178	276
Infectious disease	19	37	56
Water Supply	17	35	205
Tents, Vans and Sheds	-	3	-
Factories and Workplaces	3	10	5
Shop Acts	3	1	-
Petroleum Acts	35	41	45
Special Visits	98	89	248
<u>Meat & Food Inspection.</u>			
Slaughterhouses	26	45	56
Butchers Shops and Stalls	27	30	67
Wet Fish Shops	-	5	11
Fried Fish Shops	-	-	6
Other Food Shops	15	45	98
Bakehouses	-	13	57
Restaurant Kitchens	-	5	11
Cowsheds, including visits for samples	45	90	264
Dairies and Milk Shops	15	33	154

A great many visits were made in connection with Civil Defence particularly during 1940/41 which are not recorded in the above total.

Number of Notices served.

Statute.	Informal	1940 Statutory	Informal	1941 Staty.	Informal	1942 Staty.
Public Health Act 1936	148	23	127	-	192	2
Housing Act 1936	5	-	27	3	13	-
Food & Drugs Act 1938	-	-	4	-	50	-
Factories Act 1937	1	-	3	-	20	-

Meat and Food Inspection .

At the beginning of 1940 the Government took over the control of slaughtering with the result that the 10 private slaughter houses in the area were closed and all slaughtering for the district was done at the Government Slaughter House Stockport, the supervision of which was the responsibility of the Stockport Corporation. Before private slaughtering was suspended a small amount of meat was inspected and is recorded in the table set out below. Stockport Corporation was unable to cope with the greatly increased amount of meat inspection work placed upon their depleted staff so that in March 1941 it was agreed between Stockport Corporation and the several adjoining authorities to allow the Sanitary Inspectors from the surrounding Authorities to inspect all animals slaughtered for their district at Stockport which meant in the case of Wilmslow that meat inspection was carried out by your Inspectors at Stockport every fourth day. In April 1942 the slaughter of animals for Wilmslow's meat supply was transferred to Manchester Abattoir and the above mentioned arrangement ceased.

Number of Carcasses Inspected.

Class.	1940	1941	1942
Cattle	10	471	45
Calves	-	144	75
Sheep	-	1362	876
Pigs	26	8	26

FOOD CONDEMNED.

Meat.

As a result of the inspection made to slaughter houses and other premises at which food is sold prepared or stored for human consumption, the following amounts of food stuffs were condemned:-

Cattle.	1940		1941		1942	
	No.	Weight. lbs.	No.	Weight. lbs.	No.	Weight. lbs.
Whole Carcasses & Offals	1	450	6	1780	8	2400
Parts of Carcasses	3	350	11	1250	1	120
Heads & Tongues	1	30	56	1480	6	180
Lungs	1	10	127	1270	13	130
Hearts	-	-	14	56	-	-
Livers	4	48	63	756	9	108
Messenteries	1	53	29	580	2	58
Stomachs	2	25	4	88	-	-
Spleens	-	-	14	28	-	-
Kidneys	-	-	7	10	-	-
Diaphragms	-	-	5	5	1	2
<u>Sheep</u>						
Whole Carcasses & Offals	-	-	1	40	1	38
Parts of Carcasses	-	-	2	22	-	-
Lungs	-	-	19	19	12	12
Livers	-	-	24	36	11	16
<u>Pigs</u>						
Whole Carcasses & Offals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parts Carcase	1	22	-	-	-	-
Heads	1	14	1	15	1	16
Lungs	-	-	-	-	2	4
Hearts	-	-	-	-	3	1
Livers	-	-	-	-	1	4
Messenteries	-	-	-	-	1	-
	-	1002	-	7435		3089

Other Foods.

During the above period the following amounts of other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

	lbs.
Meat (fresh)	866
Tinned Meats	304
Butter, Cheese etc.	693
Fish	70
Fresh Vegetables	158
Tinned Fruit etc.	1003
Eggs	40
Preserves, sugar etc.	109

Water Supply.

In the summer of 1942 investigations were made into the number and position of wells in the area whether or not they were being used for the supply of water for domestic purposes. This survey was instituted on the recommendation of the Invasion Committee in order to ascertain what source of supply would be available in the event of the main supply being cut off due to enemy action. The information obtained, particularly the results of the analyses, has proved very useful for Public Health reasons and more detailed information will be given in the Report for 1943. During 1942 over 100 wells were located classified and recorded for future reference, and 76 samples of water were taken for examination.

Milk Supply.

A great deal of time was devoted in 1942 to the inspection of cow sheds and dairies in order to obtain an improvement in the cleanliness of the milk supply which at the time was causing a certain amount of concern over the whole country. In addition to the inspections, 73 samples of milk from farms and dairies within the district and 13 samples of milk produced outside the district were submitted for examination for bacterial count and the presence of B. Coli.

Pasteurised Milk.

There are no persons licenced to pasteurise milk within the urban district but two firms hold dealers' licences to retail milk of this designation within the area.

Eight samples of pasteurised milk were bacteriologically examined in 1942, four were satisfactory, and the other four were not up to the legal standard.

Ten samples of milk were submitted to the Phosphatase Test, eight were found to be sufficiently heat treated and two were undertreated.

Housing.

Circumstances have not permitted great improvements to be made in the repair or reconditioning of dwellinghouses under the Housing Act, but in all cases where defects were found to be causing a nuisance or it was essential for them to be remedied for some other reason, notices were served requiring owners to execute the necessary repairs.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal was transferred to the Public Health Department on the 1st April 1940. The method of collection was re-organised and an improved route for the vehicles was planned.

In 1940 owing to the great quantities of materials being put out as salvage it was not possible to maintain a weekly collection with the existing vehicles and labour. A 10 day collection was put into operation and maintained for a considerable period but it eventually became necessary to extend the service to a collection once per fortnight, and this has been maintained until the present time.

House refuse is disposed of by tipping on land owned by the Council in Newgate, Wilmslow. In 1940/41 an offensive effluent from the tip caused a temporary nuisance by polluting a nearby water course. By eliminating as much organic matter as possible and by providing adequate land drainage the nuisance was abated.

A separate report on the progress of the separation and disposal of materials salvaged from the refuse is presented each year in detail. During the years covered by this report, a total of 1211 tons of various materials were salvaged and sold for a sum of £4512.

There were many changes in both the technical and clerical staff during 1941 and 1942, and Mr. Gordon Ellis, Additional Sanitary Inspector resigned in October 1941 and took up a similar position in Wakefield, and Mr. L.N. Brunsell of Wrexham was appointed to fill the vacancy, and he commenced his duties in December 1941. Miss M. Fletcher, whole-time Clerk on the Permanent Staff joined the W.A.A.F. in May 1942 and her position was filled by a temporary female typist.

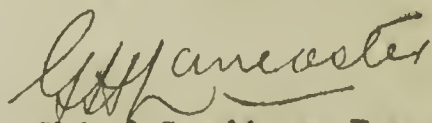
As I mentioned at the outset this report is only a very brief account of the work carried out and does not include any details of work performed in connection with Civil Defence duties which in the years 1940 and 1941 were rather considerable.

It is hoped in next year's report (1943) to be able to give a more comprehensive survey of the various Public Health Services which your Sanitary Inspectors are called upon to perform.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Evans and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.



Chief Sanitary Inspector.